

Message Text

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42

ACTION SS-25

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FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 638

C O N F I D E N T I A L EC BRUSSELS 02100

EXDIS

FOR THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR US LU EEC

SUBJECT: DIPLOMATIC CURIOSITY

REF: EC BRUSSELS 02083

1. EC COUNCIL PRESIDENT THORN IN COURSE OUR DISCUSSION TODAY (1 MARCH), AFTER MENTIONING HIS HOPE THAT ASSISTANT SECRETARY LEWIS WOULD HAVE DIRECT ACCESS TO SECRETARY KISSINGER, CURIOUSLY ILLUSTRATED HIS POINT ABOUT DANGERS OF DIVERGENCIES OF BUREAUCRATIC AND POLITICAL LEVELS. HE SAID HE HAD IN HIS POCKET A CABLE WHICH HE WOULD SHOW SECRETARY KISSINGER WHEN THEY NEXT MEET. HE SAID SIX MONTHS AGO HE HAD RAISED ISSUE WITH US AND RECEIVED WHAT WAS TO HIM UNSATISFACTORY RESPONSE. HE HAD INSTRUCTED HIS PEOPLE TO TAKE MATTER TOPERSONAL ATTENTION OF SECRETARY SINCE HE HAD REASON TO BELIEVE THAT SECRETARY'S VIEWS WERE NOT THOSE OF DEPARTMENT BUREAUCRACY. REPLY HE HAD NOW RECEIVED STATED THAT IT REPRESENTED SECRETARY'S VIEW BUT HE DID NOT BELIEVE IT. AMONGST OTHER POINTS HE NOTED THAT EXACTLY THE SAME VERBAL FORMULATIONS WERE USED THIS TIMEAS HAD BEEN CONTAINED IN EARLIER US RESPONSE.

2. THORN GAVE NO INDICATION TO ME OF SUBJECT BUT SINCE HE SAID HE WOULD RAISE MATTER WITH SECRETARY, I THOUGHT IT WELL TO REPORT HIS REMARKS.HINTON
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